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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1962

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

The Lion Press, Sandy

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1962

To the Chairman and Members of the Sandy Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions in respect of the Sandy Urban District for 1962.

The vital statistics are very satisfactory. There were no infant deaths or stillbirths this year. In a small district however, this is of less significance than the general level of mortality which has occurred over the last ten years; this works out at an average of 16.8 and is lower than the national average.

The commonest cause of death under the age of 65 was cancer of the lung and coronary disease of the heart.

The only infectious disease which was at all common during the year was Measles; a disease which at present there is little we can do to control.

There were continued complaints about the Fertilizer Factory in the district but progress was made in minimizing the objectionable odour.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Council and their staff for the help and co-operation given during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. S. BURY,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	4362
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population ...	3990
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1962 ...	1336
Rateable Value	£44,416
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£176 13s. 10d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	31	32	63
Illegitimate ...	—	1	1
	31	33	64

Crude Birth Rate per 1000 home population	16.0
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1000 home population	16.4
Birth Rate for England and Wales	18.0

STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	0	0	0
Illegitimate ...	0	0	0

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births	0.0
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales	18.1

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
All causes ...	22	23	45

Crude Death Rate per 1000 home population	11.2
Area Comparability Factor	0.97
Adjusted Death Rate per 1000 home population	10.9
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.9

Maternal Mortality—*Nil*

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	0	0	0
Illegitimate ...	0	0	0

Rate for all infants per 1000 live births	0.0
Rate for England and Wales	21.4

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics.

Causes	Under 16 years		16—65		Over 65		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
8. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	...	...	2	...	2	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplas	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	2	5	7
18. Coronary disease, angina	...	...	4	2	3	3	12
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
21. Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
22. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
24. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
25 Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. All other accidents	...	...	1	...	...	2	3
35. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	8	2	13	22	45

CAUSES OF DEATH IN INFANCY

NIL

STATISTICAL TABLE, 1952-1962

Year	Death Rate		Infant Mortality Rate		Birth Rate	
	Sandy U.D.	England & Wales	Sandy U.D.	England & Wales	Sandy U.D.	England & Wales
1952	10.8	11.3	—	27.6	11.5	15.3
1953	8.5	11.4	15.9	26.8	16.8	15.5
1954	8.7	11.3	15.9	25.5	16.8	15.2
1955	10.6	11.7	16.7	24.9	16.0	15.0
1956	9.0	11.7	14.7	23.8	18.1	15.7
1957	13.1	11.5	24.4	23.0	10.8	16.1
1958	9.0	11.7	13.5	22.5	19.7	16.9
1959	11.7	11.6	18.5	22.0	14.2	16.5
1960	14.2	11.5	15.2	21.7	17.0	17.1
1961	9.9	12.0	33.3	21.4	15.5	17.1
1962	10.9	11.9	—	21.4	16.4	18.0

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Public Health Officers—

Medical Officer of Health—
Dr. H. S. Bury, M.R.C.S,, L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector—
R. W. Settle, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.

Laboratory Facilities

The services of the Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Kimbolton Road, Bedford, is available for the examination of any material submitted by the Health Department or by General Practitioners. This service is under the direction of the Medical Research Council through the Ministry of Health, and there is no charge to the Council. The Laboratory undertakes the examination of throat swabs, sputum, urine and fæces, and blood from cases of suspected infectious disease, and advice and assistance is always available.

Services provided by the County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946

1. Ambulance

The Bedfordshire County Council provides a complete service covering the whole of the County. The service is a twenty-four hour one and is free of charge, and is available for the removal of cases requiring admission to hospital and also for the transport of patients who are unable to use other means of transport to and from Hospitals or Clinics, so that they can receive any necessary treatment. The request for the provision of an ambulance must be made by a General Practitioner or by an Authorised Person.

The service is also available for the transport of persons suffering from infectious disease to isolation hospital.

The following depots are situated in the eastern and northern districts of the County :

Biggleswade...Crab Lane ... Tel.—Biggleswade 2295
Bedford ...Bedford Road,
Kempston .. Tel.—Bedford 5335 & 5336

2. Midwifery and Domicilliary Nursing

Name and Address of Nurse—
Mrs M. Lovatt, 57 All Saints Way, Sandy
Tel. No.—Sandy 105

3. Health Visiting

Name and Address of Health Visitor—
Miss M. C. Ramsey, 30 Bedford Road, Sandy, Beds.

4. Clinic Child Welfare

Church Room, Sandy—Every alternate Thursday afternoon.

General Provision of Health and Medical Services in the Area provided by the North Western Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board

GENERAL HOSPITALS

Bedford Gen. Hospital, South Wing, Kempston Road, Bedford
Bedford Gen. Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford
North Herts. & South Beds. Hospital, Hitchin, Herts.
Lister Hospital, Hitchin, Herts.

GERIATRIC HOSPITALS

Bedford Gen. Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford
Clapham Hospital, near Bedford
Biggleswade Hospital, Potton Road, Biggleswade

MATERNITY HOSPITALS

Bedford Gen. Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford
Lister Hospital, Hitchin, Herts.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Spittlesea Isolation Hospital, Luton

PSYCHIATRIC

Three Counties Hospital, Arlesey

MENTALLY SUB-NORMAL

Bromham Hospital, near Bedford

CHEST CLINIC (For Pulmonary Tuberculosis)

Bedford Gen. Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC

Bedford Gen. Hospital, South Wing, Kempston Road, Bedford

MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

Biggleswade (The Lawns) Tuesdays 11.15 to 11.45 a.m.

PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

Biggleswade (The Lawns) Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

Bedford Gen. Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The water undertakers for the district are now the Mid-Beds. Water Board which has taken over all the installations of the former Biggleswade Water Board. The source and treatment of the water remains unaltered. It is not plumbo-solvent. The following report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of a sample sent for examination is typical.

Chemical Results in parts per Million

Appearance—Clear and bright

Turbidity	Nil
Colour	Nil
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	20
Electric Conductivity	430
Total Solids	280
Chlorine present as Chloride	16
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	200
Hardness—Total	210
Carbonate	200
Non-Carbonate	10
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen*	0.010
Albuminoid Nitrogen*	0.000
Metals—Iron	Abssnt
Other Metals	Absent
Oxygen absorbed	0.00
Residual Chlorine	Absent

*To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar

1 day at 37 degs. C	0 per ml.
2 days at 37 degs. C	0 ,,
3 days at 20 degs. C	0 ,,

	Present in	Absent from	Probable Number
Presumptive coli-ærogenes reaction	—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (type 1)	—ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	—ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not unduly so, contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes. Regular samples are taken from taps in the district and subject to bacteriological examination. All samples have proved satisfactory.

Distribution of Water

All houses are supplied with mains water.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

(a) General Statistics

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1962

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total deaths registered
Dysentery	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever	4	...	...
Measles	174	...	...

Vaccination and Immunisation

It is now possible to protect persons against an increasing number of infections by the use of vaccines and toxoids. The Bedfordshire County Council is responsible for the provision of this service which is given direct at clinics or through the General Medical Practitioners. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis are the diseases dealt with. The tables presented below are supplied by the Divisional Medical Officer and indicate the work carried out in the district during the year.

Diphtheria Only

Primary injections	...	4
Re inforcing injections	...	66

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Primary injections	...	55

Diphtheria / Tetanus

Re-inforcing injections	...	18

Smallpox Vaccination Carried Out during the Year

Primary vaccination	..	202
Re-vaccination	...	151

These figures are abnormally high, this being due entirely to the introduction of Smallpox into parts of the country which caused some alarm. This reminded us very forcibly of the continuing need for protection against this disease.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During the year the following inoculations against Poliomyelitis were carried out in the North Eastern part of the County :

Primary inoculations	...	4122
Re-inforcing doses	...	2321

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

B C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis is now available to senior schoolchildren and students and the following shows the vaccinations carried out in the North Eastern part of the County:

Number vaccinated ... 1768

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of new cases of uberculosis notified and the number of deaths recorded since 1947

	New Cases					Deaths				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon'y		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmon'y		Total
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
1947	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
1948	1	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...
1949	2	4	...	1	7	1	1	...	...	2
1950	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
1951	1	2	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...
1952	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
1953	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1
1954	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
1955	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
1956	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
1957	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1198	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
1960	1	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1962	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The Mobile Chest X-Ray Unit now visits Biggleswade regularly to provide a service for local medical practitioners. It is stationed at "The Lawns" every Tuesday morning, between 11.15 a.m. and 11.45 a.m.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR FOR THE YEAR 1962

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report.

1. Drainage and Sewerage

The town is sewered along all the main streets and roads. Swaden, Stratford Road, Station Road, Ivel Road, Tempsford Road, Beeston Green and Seddington are not sewered.

2. Rivers and Streams

The Ivel Internal Drainage Board undertake the cleaning of all streams.

3. Houses connected to Sewer, etc.

1,180 Houses connected to sewer. 109 Houses with water closets connected to septic tanks. 47 Houses with pails.

Conversions from Pails to Water Closets

Total number of conversions since 1945 ... 143

4. Public Cleansing

The collection of household refuse and the emptying of pails is carried out by the Council's workmen in a ten cubic yard Karrier. The Karrier is supplemented by the tractor and trailer when necessary. The work is generally satisfactory. The emptying of cesspools is carried out by contract,

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :

Total number of visits made	76,834
Ashbins emptied	72,626
Cesspools	26
Pail closets emptied	4182
Loads of refuse and night soil removed ...	759

Street Gullies are emptied regularly and street scavenging is done at regular intervals.

5. Public Health Inspection

The following inspections were made and nuisances abated or defects remedied by informal action :

Housing defects (including Council Houses) ...	1339
Unfit Houses	NIL
Water Wastage	3

Routine Inspections ... ... (not including Council Houses)	745
Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	NIL
Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	NIL

6. Shops

No action with regard to shops was found necessary.

7. Factories and Workshops

There are 39 Factories and Workshops on the Register and 210 visits have been made.

Builders	10	Electrician	1
Joiners		Millers	3
Painters		Motor Engineers	5
Plumbers		Printers	2
Bakers	2	Saddlers	1
Boot Repairers	2	Stone Mason	1
Cycle Repairers	2	Coach Builder	1
Panel Beating	1	Clothing Factory	1
Packing Vegetable Goods	1	Scaffolding and Form Work	1
Animal Feeding Stuffs	1	Cafes	4

Administration of the Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part I of Act

INSPECTIONS

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorites	39	210	...	...
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority				
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	...	...	...	...
Total	39	210	...	...

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness [s.1]	...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding [s.2]	...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature [s.3]	...	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation [s.4]	...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors [s.6]	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences: [s.7]					
(a) Insufficient ...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Unsuitable or def'tive	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110(1)c (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel making, etc	5	...	...	...	...	...

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply

3 Firms are registered under the Milk and Dairies Order, Retail Purveyors only.

(b) Meat and Other Foods

There are no slaughter houses in the Urban District

Shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared have been duly inspected and found to be in good order.

Voluntary surrender of the undermentioned foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption has been made.

Canned Meat	2 cans
Meat	28 lbs.

(c) Ice Cream

Fourteen premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream. It is purchased from reputable manufacturers. Ice cream is not manufactured in the Urban District.

Sewage Disposal Works

There are now 1,180 houses connected to the sewer. The majority of the houses along the High Road have now been connected up to the sewer. The sewage from The Baulk and the High Road is forced over the River Ivel by means of two electric motors, automatic float control and squirrel cage type pumps situated in The Baulk.

The motors and pumps have given excellent results, and require the minimum of attention.

The sewage arrives at the works 13′ 3″ below ground level, and forced to the Continuous Flow Tanks by two Mirlees-Watson Electric Motors and centrifugal pumps. The motors have given an excellent performance. They are automatic and controlled by electrodes.

Several samples of the effluent were taken during the year and submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories for examination, the analysis of which proved satisfactory.

Number of visits made to Sewage Works approx. 300. The Works are satisfactory for the present requirements.

Summary of Electricity Consumed

Year.....	1945	1946	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962
Units.....	4035	11,841	10,961	13,337	16,922	17,835	18,068

Rainfall

Year.....	1945	1946	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962
Inches ...	9.08	23.08	24.4	14.31	26.62	18.78	17.515

Rainfall

	Total	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours Inches	Date	No. of days with .01 or over	.04 or over
January	2.13	.40	9	16	11
February	.38	.14	12	9	4
March	1.13	.30	29	10	6
April	1.47	.40	21	13	11
May	2.30	.34	27	18	14
June	.10	.08	10	2	1
July	1.92	.64	26	12	8
August	2.18	.94	6	10	8
September	2.355	.39	10	13	12
October	.75	.29	25	7	5
November	1.17	.38	2	13	9
December	1.63	.55	29	9	9
	17.515			132	98

Council Houses Painted

39 Pre War	...	...	£780
48 Post War	...	...	£598
Cemetery Cottage		...	£38

Number of Houses owned by the Council

Pre War	...	...	226
Cemetery Cottage		...	1
Post War	...	...	252

Houses and Bungalows erected since 1945

Local Authority	*Private*
10 Prefabs	27 Bungalows
47 Bungalows	55 Houses
196 Houses	3 Flats
253 Total	85 Total

Number for 1962

Local Authority	*Private*
NIL	17

Plans submitted during the year

Outline Development	21
Industrial Development	6
Dwelling Houses	9
Additions and Extensions	19
Caravans	4
Garages	1
Advertisements	8
Agricultural and Horticultural Buildings ...	2
Shop Fronts	1
Change of Use	1
Housing Estate containing 32 houses ...	1

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district.

New Streets and Sewers

New Roads ...	NIL
Sewers ...	Commenced on one site

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their consideration and support extended to me during the year, and to the Clerk to the Council, and the staff for their kind assistance and loyal co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

REG. W. SETTLE, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.,

Surveyor.